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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,273	07/15/2003	Douglas A. Collins	07959.105018 DIV	1576

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EXAMINER

JONES, DAMERON LEVEST

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1618

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/620,273

Applicant(s)

COLLINS ET AL.

Examiner

D. L. Jones

Art Unit

1618

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/11/05.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 14-18 and 20-25 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 14-18 and 20-25 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

1. The Examiner acknowledges receipt of the amendment filed 8/11/05 wherein claims 1-8, 14, and 20-23 are amended; claims 9-13 and 19 are canceled; and claims 24 and 25 are added.

**Note:** Claims 1-8, 14-18, and 20-25 are pending.

## **RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S AMENDMENT/ARGUMENTS**

2. The Applicant's arguments filed 8/11/05 to the rejection of claims 1-23 made by the Examiner under 35 USC 102, 103, 112, and/or double patenting have been fully considered and deemed persuasive-in-part for the reasons set forth below.

### **Statutory Double Patenting Rejections**

The statutory double patenting rejection over US Patent Nos. 6,004,533 and 5,739,313 are WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

### **Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejections**

I. The rejection over US Patent No. 5,739,313; 6,211,355; 6,613,305; 6,806,363; 09/873,142; 09/873,164; 10/028,857 is WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

II. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 14, and 23-25 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8 of US Patent No. 6,096,290 is MAINTAINED for reasons of record in the office action mailed 2/9/05.

Art Unit: 1618

III. The rejection of claims 1-8 and 14-23 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patents as being unpatentable over claims 1-10 of US Patent No. 6,004,533 is MAINTAINED for reasons of record.

IV. The provisional rejection of claims 1-4 under the judicially created of doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 15, 16, and 18 of 10/027,593.

is MAINTAINED for reasons of record in the office action mailed 2/9/05.

V. The provisional rejection of claims 1-3 and 20 over claims 1, 24, 29, 44, 54, 56, 57, 59, 70, 73 and 74 of 10/777,820 is MAINTAINED for reasons of record in the office mailed 2/9/05.

#### COMMENTS/NOTES

3. It is once again noted that no prior art has been cited against the instant invention. However, Applicant must address and overcome the 112 rejections. The claims are distinguished over the prior art of record for reasons of record in the office action mailed 2/9/05.

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the


Art Unit: 1618

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. L. Jones whose telephone number is (571) 272-0617. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 6:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman Page can be reached on (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



D. L. Jones  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1618

October 31, 2005